

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Inventor : Shinya Wada
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Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

S I R:

In order to comply with discretionary regulations 37 CFR §§ 1.97 and 1.98, attached hereto is a copy of Form PTO-1449 and copies of non-US documents (if any) listed thereon. These documents contain information which the Examiner may consider to be important in deciding whether to issue a patent in the instant application.

For documents written in a language other than English, English language abstracts and/or explanations are annexed thereto explaining relevancy in accordance with 37 CFR §1.98 (a)(3).

Attached is a Notification of Reason(s) for Refusal dated December 4, 2007, with translation, for corresponding Japanese Application Number 2002-328853. This document cites four documents, namely JP 10-307936; JP 11-134087; JP 2002-108672 and Non-Patent Literature reference, YUSUSUKE NIIYAMA, "Search Free Software, File System is Viewed as Outer Space", Nikkei Business Publications, Inc., February 8, 2000, p. 133, Vol. 2, No. 2, which were submitted in an IDS filed on July 20, 2007.

The present Disclosure Statement is being submitted in compliance with 37 CFR §1.56 as an Examiner might consider any cited document important in deciding whether to allow the

application to issue as a patent, but the citation of each document is not to be construed as an admission that such document is necessarily relevant or prior art. No representation is intended that the cited documents represent the results of a complete search, and it is anticipated that the Examiner in the normal course of examination, will make an independent search and will determine the best prior art consistent with 37 CFR §§1.104 (a) and 1.106 (b), and in the course of such search will review for relevance every document cited on the attached form even if not initialed.

Each item of information contained in this information disclosure statement not previously cited in an IDS, was first cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, not more than three months prior to the filing of the information disclosure statement, and therefore applicant respectfully submit that no fee is due. However any fee determined to be due with this paper may be charged on Deposit Account 50-1290.

Early and favorable consideration is respectfully solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

/ Brian E. Hennessey /
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